



FIRST UNITED CHURCH

Swift Current, SK

Sunday, January 14, 2024

2nd after Epiphany

Leading Worship: Rev. Annette Taylor

Music Director: James McLauchlan

Pianist: Mary Anderson

Organist: Patti McCleary

Reader: Janet Keene



GATHERING

Moment for Reflection

*The place God calls you to
is the place where
your deep gladness and
the world's deep hunger meet.*

— Frederick Buechner

Land Acknowledgement & Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle

Gathering Hymn: MV #14 *Where Two or Three Are Gathered* (sung 4 times)
(please remain seated)

Call to Worship

ONE: "Come with me"

**ALL: We receive the Jesus words
in times of great joy.**

ONE: "Come with me"

**ALL: We receive the Jesus words
in times of stress and difficulty.**

ONE: "Come with me"

**ALL: We receive the Jesus words when
they are the last words we want to welcome.**

ONE: "Come with me"

**ALL: We receive the Jesus words.
We take them to heart, and
we faithfully go to work.**

Written by: David Sparks.

<https://gatheringworship.ca/prayer/come-me-we-receive-jesus-words>

Opening Hymn: VU #567 *Will You Come and Follow Me*
(please stand as you are able)

Opening Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Loving God, you've called us and we've come.

It is good to be together in this place.

We come,

bearing the marks and scars of our living,

and offer them to your healing presence.

Bless us as we gather—each one of us—

that we may know your Spirit moving among us

as we share our calling of discipleship.

Bless us and bless our time together,

so that we might be a blessing in your world.

Written by: Bob Root.

<https://gatheringworship.ca/prayer/loving-god-youve-called-us-and-weve-come-0>

WORD

Hymn: MV #161 *I Have Called You by Your Name* (verses 1 & 2)

(please remain seated)

Community Learning Time

- Melanie Davis

Hymn: MV #161 *I Have Called You by Your Name* (verses 3 & 4)

Scripture Reading: John 1:35-51

ONE: We read this text so that in it we may find wisdom for life.

ALL: May we be open to the Wisdom we understand and hear.

Reflection: *Follow Me*

Choral Offering: *Come Follow Me*

– Words by Sally K. Albrecht & Music by Jay Althouse

RESPONSE

Minute for Mission: *Making a Home for Refugees*

Offering Invitation

Prayer of Dedication

As long ago, the magi brought their gifts

we bring our gifts to you, O Holy Mystery.

We offer them,

signs of our love and commitment,

to your work of peace and justice.

Receive our monetary gifts and, with them,

the gifts of our hearts and living.

Amen.

Adapted from: Bob Root

<https://gatheringworship.ca/prayer/long-ago-magi-brought-their-gifts>

Prayers of the People (306-750-8925)

Closing Hymn: VU #507 *Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples*
(please stand as you are able)

Commissioning & Benediction

Choral Closing: VU #969 *Amen*

Postlude

Prayer Cycles

Ministerial

Trailview Alliance Church
Living Skies Regional Council
Canora St. Andrew's, Carlyle
Carrot River, Colonsay

Lectionary Readings for January 21, 2024

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Psalms 62:5-12 (VU pp. 779-780)

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Mark 1:14-20

Worship Schedule

(Season after Epiphany)

Jan 21	<i>Jonah</i>	- Sunday School
Jan 28	<i>Wisdom</i> (with communion & potluck lunch)	- Rev. Annette Taylor
Feb 4	<i>5th After Epiphany</i>	- Karen Messer
Feb 11	<i>Transfiguration</i>	- Rev. Annette Taylor

Report Advocates for Release of Santa Marta 5



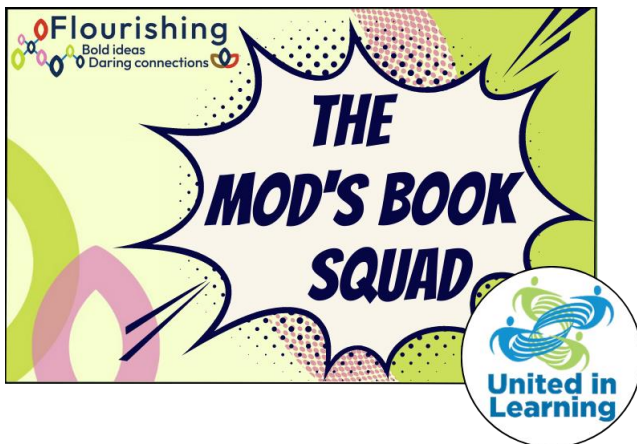
On January 11, 2023, five human rights and Water Defenders who played a key role in El Salvador's 2017 historic ban on metals mining were detained in Santa Marta, El Salvador.

A year later, they remain detained.

Read the [full news story](#) and join the rally on January 10, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. local time, in support of the five imprisoned Water Defenders' release.

[Photo: ADES Santa Marta Facebook]

The Mod's Book Squad



Be a superhero!
Join the Moderator and her guests in a thoughtful discussion about hearty topics through the lens of flourishing.
Learn more about the [Book Squad and what we'll be reading](#).

On January 25, at 7:00 p.m. ET, join Moderator Carmen Lansdowne and special guest Debra Thompson as we discuss Thompson's book, [The Long Road Home: On Blackness and Belonging](#). Enroll once and gain access to the entire Mod's Book Squad series at [CHURCHx](#).

[Image credit: The United Church of Canada]